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APPOINTMENT OF CITY HEALTH COMMISSIONER.

COURT DECIDES THAT APPOINTMENT MADE UPON CERTIFICATION BY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION WAS LEGAL THOUGH BY MISTAKE THE WRONG PERSON HAD BEEN CERTIFIED.

In 1914 an examination was held by the civil service commission of Kansas City, Kans., to fill a vacancy in the office of health commissioner. Two names were certified for appointment, and Dr. C. W. McLaughlin was selected and appointed. Later the civil service commission discovered that an error had been made in totaling the grades, and that the name of Dr. McLaughlin should not have been certified. The city commissioners attempted to remove him from the office, but the Supreme Court of Kansas decided that Dr. McLaughlin's appointment was made in compliance with the statute, and that it was therefore legal notwithstanding the mistake.

The opinion of the court is published in this issue of the Public Health Reports, page 967.

THE CONTROL OF TYPHOID FEVER.

A DEMONSTRATION OF EFFICIENCY IN HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

The necessity for painstaking work and attention to details in the control of a disease is well exemplified in the methods employed by the New York City Department of Health in the control of typhoid fever and in the results obtained by the use of these methods. Many health departments are not in a position to do such thorough work, and to the degree that this is so the protection which they give to their respective communities must be less real.

In New York City every case of typhoid fever reported to the department of health is visited by a nurse, who makes careful inquiries of the family into the history of the case and records the facts elicited on a special history card. These cards are then analyzed by the chief of the division of epidemiology, and, if necessary, additional investigations are undertaken to learn the source of infection and to see that further infections are prevented.